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9	UNITED STATES DIS	TRICT COURT
10	CENTRAL DISTRICT O	
11	WESTERN DI	
12	SWEET PEOPLE APPAREL, INC. d/b/a) C	Case No.: 2:16-cv-00940-TJH-JC
13	MISS ME, a California corporation, et al., \(\)	
14	Plaintiffs, \(\langle\)	Ion. Terry J. Hatter Jr.
15	\parallel v.	PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM OF CONTENTIONS OF FACT AND LAW
16 17	PHOENIX FIBERS, INC., an Arizona	Pretrial Conf. Date: March 27, 2016
18	Defendants.	rial Date: TBD
19)	
20	Pursuant to Local Rule 16-4, Plaintiffs Sv	weet People Apparel, Inc. d/b/a MISS
21	ME ("Sweet People") and RCRV, Inc. d/b/a RC	OCK REVIVAL ("RCRV")
22	(collectively, "Plaintiffs") respectfully submit the	he following memorandum of
23	contentions of fact and law.	
24	INTRODUC	TION
25	This suit arises out of Plaintiffs' desire to	destroy its defective products in an
26	environmentally friendly manner. Defendant Phoenix Fibers, Inc. ("Phoenix Fibers")	
27	agreed to provide such a service, but instead sol	ld Plaintiffs' second-quality MISS ME
28	and ROCK REVIVAL products out the back do	oor for profit. All of the Defendants

benefited from this scam, while Plaintiffs and consumers were irreparably harmed by the confusion it undoubtedly caused in the marketplace. Such misconduct should not be tolerated.

Plaintiffs manufacture, promote, sell and distribute high-quality denim and apparel products throughout the United States under the well-known MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL brand names, each of which is the subject of numerous federal trademark registrations. Plaintiffs' MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL products have achieved substantial sales success and received extensive media coverage. Moreover, Plaintiffs' products are widely recognized for their superior quality, a reputation they have earned by maintaining strict policies that ensure that only the highest quality goods enter the stream of commerce.

As a result of their strict quality control procedures, Plaintiffs deem certain MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL denim products unfit for sale to consumers. Prior to November 2011, Plaintiffs took great care to dispose of such products either by incinerating them at their overseas factories, or cutting them up and depositing them in a landfill. However, in light of the potentially negative environmental impact of these disposal methods, finding an environmentally friendly way to dispose of their second-quality denim products became a high priority for Plaintiffs.

In November 2011, Plaintiffs' representative, Lisa Song, on the instruction of her superiors, contacted Bonded Logic, Inc. ("Bonded Logic"), Phoenix Fibers' commonly-owned affiliate, about its program of using denim to manufacture environmentally friendly insulation products, and was referred to Phoenix Fibers. Ms. Song, operating under the supervision of Plaintiffs' then-General Counsel, Lilly Kim, engaged in a series of communications with Phoenix Fibers' then-General Manager, Matt Graham. Ms. Song explained to Mr. Graham Plaintiffs' desire to dispose of their second-quality products in an environmentally friendly way, while Mr. Graham pitched to Ms. Song Phoenix Fibers' business of converting denim into shoddy fiber for Bonded Logic's use in producing insulation and other products.

Shortly thereafter, the parties arrived at a mutually beneficial agreement — Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL products to Phoenix Fibers' facility at no cost, and Phoenix Fibers would shred (*i.e.*, destroy) Plaintiffs' products and convert them into shoddy fiber, which its affiliate Bonded Logic would then use to manufacture environmentally friendly insulation products. Plaintiffs delivered their first load of second-quality denim products to Phoenix Fibers for shredding at the end of November 2011.

Thereafter, from November 2011 through September 2015, Plaintiffs shipped approximately one million pounds of second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL denim products to Phoenix Fibers for destruction and conversion into shoddy fiber. At no time during this entire period did Phoenix Fibers ever indicate, or even imply, that it was doing (or had the right to do) anything with Plaintiffs' second-quality goods other than destroy them in accordance with the parties' agreement. To the contrary, Phoenix Fibers continued to represent that Plaintiffs' products were being shredded into shoddy fiber.

In the summer of 2015, Plaintiffs learned that significant quantities of second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL denim products, which Plaintiffs had never authorized to be sold to consumers, were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels. Plaintiffs' investigation revealed that these were products that had been delivered to Phoenix Fibers for conversion into shoddy fiber under the parties' 2011 agreement.

Accordingly, in October 2015, Ms. Kim contacted Phoenix Fibers to express Plaintiffs' concern that second-quality products were finding their way out of Phoenix Fibers' warehouse and into consumer trade channels. Both Tod Kean (CEO of Phoenix Fibers and co-founder of Bonded Logic) and Steven Johnson (Phoenix Fibers' then-Plant Manager) told Ms. Kim that the problem was the result of "leakage" — *i.e.*, theft — from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse. In fact, however, as Messrs. Kean and Johnson well knew, Phoenix Fibers had sold these products to

Defendant U.S. General Export, Inc. ("U.S. General"). In other words, Phoenix Fibers repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, and continued to do so for months; even denying the existence of any such sales in its Answer filed in this action five months later.

Having received only dishonest responses from Phoenix Fibers, in early December 2015 Plaintiffs hired a private investigator, at significant expense, to determine the source of the second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL denim products that were flooding consumer trade channels. Between December 2015 and February 2016, Plaintiffs' investigators purchased over 29,000 units of such products from Defendants Comak Trading, Inc. and Lydia Evilsa Terrazas Cho, and SAC International Traders, Inc. and Shaukat Ali Chohan, at a cost of nearly \$200,000. Unfortunately, those units turned out to be only the tip of the iceberg. Discovery has established that all of these goods had been sourced from Defendant U.S. General, which in turn had purchased them from Phoenix Fibers in cash sales brokered by Mr. Johnson. Thus, apparently for years, the consumer market has been, and continues to be flooded with poor quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL products that were never intended to be sold to the public, but which observers in the post-sale market will inevitably believe are Plaintiffs' first-quality goods.

L.R. 16-4.1 CLAIMS AND DEFENSES

I. Plaintiffs' Claims

<u>Claim 1</u>: Phoenix Fibers' unauthorized distribution and/or sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods constitutes a breach of Phoenix Fibers' agreement with Plaintiffs only to shred Plaintiffs' donated second-quality goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.

Claim 2: Defendants' unauthorized distribution and/or sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods constitutes infringement of Plaintiffs' federally registered MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1114.

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Claim 3: Defendants' unauthorized distribution and/or sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods constitutes false designation of origin and unfair competition, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a). Claim 4: Defendants' unauthorized distribution and/or sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods constitutes unfair competition, in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq. Claim 5: Defendants' unauthorized distribution and/or sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods constitutes trademark dilution, in violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 14247. Claim 6: Defendants' unauthorized distribution and/or sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods constitutes trademark infringement and unfair competition under California common law. II. **Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' Claims** A. Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' Breach of Contract Claim The following elements are required to establish Plaintiffs' claim for breach of contract: The existence of a contract between Plaintiffs and Phoenix Fibers; 1. 2. Plaintiffs' performance under the contract; 3. Phoenix Fibers' breach of the contract; and 4. Plaintiffs were damaged as a result of Phoenix Fibers' breach. See Oasis W. Realty, LLC v. Goldman, 250 P.3d 1115, 1121 (Cal. 2011). See generally CACI No. 303, Breach of Contract—Essential Factual Elements. In California, the required elements demonstrating the existence of a contract are: The parties are capable of contracting; 1. 2. The parties gave consent; The contract had a lawful object; and 3. 4. Sufficient consideration was exchanged.

1	See Cal. Civ	v. Code § 1550 (West). See generally CACI No. 302, Contract
2	Formation-	-Essential Factual Elements.
3	В.	Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' Trademark Infringement Claim
4		<u>Under 15 U.S.C. § 1114</u>
5	The f	following elements are required to establish Plaintiffs' claim for trademark
6	infringemer	nt under the Lanham Act:
7	1.	Plaintiffs own valid and protectable interests in the MISS ME and/or
8		ROCK REVIVAL marks; and
9	2.	Defendants used Plaintiffs' MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks
10		without consent, and in a manner that was likely to cause confusion
11		among ordinary consumers, including those who observe such product in
12		the post-sale marketplace, as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation, or
13		approval of the goods.
14	See Ninth C	Circuit Manual of Model Civil Jury Instructions 15.6; AOP Ventures, Inc. v.
15	Steam Distr	ribution, LLC, 2016 WL 7336730, at *4 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 11, 2016) (citing
16	Phillip Mor	ris USA Inc. v. Shalabi, 352 F. Supp. 2d 1067, 1072 (C.D. Cal. 2004));
17	Karl Storz I	Endoscopy Am., Inc. v. Surgical Tech., Inc., 285 F.3d 848, 854 (9th Cir.
18	2002) ("The	e law in the Ninth Circuit is clear that 'post-purchase' confusion, i.e.,
19	confusion o	n the part of someone other than the purchaser who, for example, simply
20	sees the iter	n after it has been purchased, can establish the required likelihood of
21	confusion.	").
22	C.	Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' False Designation of Origin
23		and Unfair Competition Claim Under 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)
24	The f	following elements are required to establish Plaintiffs' claim for false
25	designation	of origin under the Lanham Act:
26	1.	Plaintiffs own valid and protectable interests in the MISS ME and/or
27		ROCK REVIVAL marks; and

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2. Defendants used Plaintiffs' MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks without consent, and in a manner that was likely to cause confusion among ordinary consumers, including those who observe such product in the post-sale marketplace, as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation, or approval of the goods.

See Ninth Circuit Manual of Model Civil Jury Instructions 15.5 cmt & 15.6; New W. Corp. v. NYM Co. of California, 595 F.2d 1194, 1201 (9th Cir. 1979); AOP Ventures, Inc., 2016 WL 7336730, at *4 (citing Phillip Morris USA Inc., 352 F. Supp. 2d at 1072); Fed'n of Telugu Ass'ns of S. California v. Telugu Ass'n of S. California, 2016 WL 1588479, at *8 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 20, 2016); Karl Storz Endoscopy Am., Inc., 285 F.3d at 854 ("The law in the Ninth Circuit is clear that 'post-purchase' confusion, i.e., confusion on the part of someone other than the purchaser who, for example, simply sees the item after it has been purchased, can establish the required likelihood of confusion").

D. <u>Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' Unfair Competition Claim</u>
Under Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq.

The following elements are required to establish Plaintiffs' claim for unfair competition under California law:

- Plaintiffs own valid and protectable interests in the MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks; and
- 2. Defendants used Plaintiffs' MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks without consent, and in a manner that was likely to cause confusion among ordinary consumers, including those who observe such product in the post-sale marketplace, as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation, or approval of the goods.

See Ninth Circuit Manual of Model Civil Jury Instructions 15.6; Acad. of Motion Picture Arts & Scis. v. Creative House Promotions, Inc., 944 F.2d 1446, 1457 (9th Cir. 1991); AOP Ventures, Inc., 2016 WL 7336730, at *4 (citing Phillip Morris USA Inc.,

- 1 352 F. Supp. 2d at 1072); Fed'n of Telugu Ass'ns of S. California v. Telugu Ass'n of S. 2 California, 2016 WL 1588479, at *8 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 20, 2016); Karl Storz Endoscopy 3 Am., Inc., 285 F.3d at 854 ("The law in the Ninth Circuit is clear that 'post-purchase' confusion, i.e., confusion on the part of someone other than the purchaser who, for 4 5 example, simply sees the item after it has been purchased, can establish the required 6 likelihood of confusion"). Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' Trademark Dilution Claim 7 E. 8 Under Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 14247 9 The following elements are required to establish Plaintiffs' claim for trademark 10 dilution under California law: 11 1. Plaintiffs' MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks are famous and 12 distinctive in the State of California; 13 2. Defendants are using identical or nearly identical marks in commerce; 14 3. Defendants' use began after the marks became famous; and Defendants' use is likely to cause dilution of Plaintiffs' marks, such as by 15 4. 16 (a) blurring or (b) tarnishment. 17 18 19
 - See Visa Int'l Serv. Ass'n v. JSL Corp., 610 F.3d 1088, 1089-90 (9th Cir. 2010); Jada Toys, Inc. v. Mattel, Inc., 518 F.3d 628, 634 (9th Cir. 2008); Lions Gate Entm't Inc. v. TD Ameritrade Holding Corp., 2016 WL 4134495 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 1, 2016).

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F. Elements Required to Establish Plaintiffs' Trademark Infringement and Unfair Competition Claim Under California Common Law

The following elements are required to establish Plaintiffs' claim for trademark infringement or unfair competition under California common law:

- 1. Plaintiffs own valid and protectable interests in the MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks; and
- 2. Defendants used Plaintiffs' MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL marks without consent, and in a manner that was likely to cause confusion among ordinary consumers, including those who observe such product in

1 the post-sale marketplace, as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation, or 2 approval of the goods. 3 See Ninth Circuit Manual of Model Civil Jury Instructions 15.6; KCI Newport, Inc. v. Smoke Tokes, LLC, 2016 WL 2885859, at *7 (C.D. Cal. May 17, 2016); Kleven v. 4 Hereford, 2016 WL 4424964, at *7 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 18, 2016); AOP Ventures, Inc., 5 2016 WL 7336730, at *4 (citing *Phillip Morris USA Inc.*, 352 F. Supp. 2d at 1072); 6 Fed'n of Telugu Ass'ns of S. California v. Telugu Ass'n of S. California, 2016 WL 7 1588479, at *8 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 20, 2016); Karl Storz Endoscopy Am., Inc., 285 F.3d at 8 9 854 ("The law in the Ninth Circuit is clear that 'post-purchase' confusion, i.e., 10 confusion on the part of someone other than the purchaser who, for example, simply 11 sees the item after it has been purchased, can establish the required likelihood of 12 confusion"). III. **Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' Claims** 13 14 Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' Breach of Contract Claim A. The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely 15 on in support of this claim: 16 Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented 17 1. Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, 18 19 inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods. 20 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Matt Graham was the 21 Plant Manager and General Manager for Phoenix Fibers. 3. 22 Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of 23 Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that 24 Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no 25 charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such 26 as insulation. 27

- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents regarding Phoenix Fibers' sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to U.S. General.
- 8. Testimony and/or documents regarding U.S. General's sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to SAC International Traders, Inc. ("SAC International"), who in turn sold such goods to consumers and/or to the other Defendants, who in turn sold them to consumers.
- 9. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs spent nearly \$200,000 in order to recover certain of their second-quality goods that were improperly sold into the secondary consumer market by Phoenix Fibers and the other Defendants.
- 10. Samples of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods that Defendants sold into the secondary consumer market.
- B. <u>Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' Trademark Infringement Claim</u>

 <u>Under 15 U.S.C. § 1114</u>

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in support of this claim:

- and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 11. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 12. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 13. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 14. Testimony and/or documents regarding Phoenix Fibers' sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to Defendant U.S. General Export.
- 15. Testimony and/or documents regarding U.S. General Export's sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to SAC International Traders, Inc., who in turn sold such goods to consumers, and/or to the other Defendants, who in turn sold them to consumers.
- 16. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs spent nearly \$200,000 in order to recover certain of their second-quality goods that were improperly sold into the secondary consumer market by Phoenix Fibers and the other Defendants.
- 17. Samples of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods that Defendants sold into the secondary consumer market.

C. <u>Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' False Designation of Origin and</u>
Unfair Competition Claim Under 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in support of this claim:

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Matt Graham was the Plant Manager and General Manager for Phoenix Fibers.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents regarding Phoenix Fibers' sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to U.S. General.

into the secondary consumer marketplace.

D. <u>Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' Unfair Competition Claim Under</u>
Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 *et seq*.

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in support of this claim:

- 1. Plaintiffs' trademark registrations and Trademark Office file wrappers for their MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' use of their MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding the likelihood of confusion, including confusion among post-sale observers, arising from Defendants' offer for sale and sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- Testimony and/or documents regarding the strength of Plaintiffs' MISS
 ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents regarding the types of Plaintiffs' goods that bear the MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks, and the degree of care likely to be exercised by the post-sale observer.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents regarding the channels through which Plaintiffs sell their goods that bear the MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents regarding Defendants' bad faith and willfulness in offering for sale and selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods into the secondary consumer marketplace.
- 8. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 9. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Matt Graham was the Plant Manager and General Manager for Phoenix Fibers.

- 10. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 11. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 12. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 13. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 14. Testimony and/or documents regarding Phoenix Fibers' sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to Defendant U.S. General.
- 15. Testimony and/or documents regarding U.S. General's sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to SAC International Traders, Inc., who in turn sold such goods to consumers, and/or to the other Defendants, who in turn sold them to consumers.
- 16. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs spent nearly \$200,000 in order to recover certain of their second-quality goods that were improperly sold into the secondary consumer market by Phoenix Fibers and the other Defendants.

- 17. Samples of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods that Defendants sold into the secondary consumer market.
- E. <u>Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' Trademark Dilution Claim Under</u>
 Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 14247

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in support of this claim:

- 1. Plaintiffs' trademark registrations and Trademark Office file wrappers for their MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' use of their MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding the fame and distinctiveness of Plaintiffs' MISS ME and/or ROCK REVIVAL.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents regarding the likelihood of dilution by blurring and/or tarnishment arising from Defendants' offer for sale and sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents regarding the high quality of Plaintiffs' goods that bear the MISS ME or ROCK REVIVAL marks, and the low quality of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods sold to consumers by Defendants.
- Testimony and/or documents regarding the strength of Plaintiffs' MISS
 ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents regarding the types of Plaintiffs' goods that bear the MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks, and the degree of care likely to be exercised by the post-sale observer.
- 8. Testimony and/or documents regarding the channels through which Plaintiffs sell their goods that bear the MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.

- 9. Testimony and/or documents regarding Defendants' bad faith and willfulness in offering for sale and selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods into the secondary consumer marketplace.
- 10. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 11. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Matt Graham was the Plant Manager and General Manager for Phoenix Fibers.
- 12. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 13. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 14. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 15. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 16. Testimony and/or documents regarding Phoenix Fibers' sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to Defendant U.S. General.

- 17. Testimony and/or documents regarding U.S. General's sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to SAC International Traders, Inc., who in turn sold such goods to consumers, and/or to the other Defendants, who in turn sold them to consumers.
- 18. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs spent nearly \$200,000 in order to recover certain of their second-quality goods that were improperly sold into the secondary consumer market by Phoenix Fibers and the other Defendants.
- 19. Samples of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods that Defendants sold into the secondary consumer market.
- F. Key Evidence in Support of Plaintiffs' Trademark Infringement and
 Unfair Competition Claim Under California Common Law

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in support of this claim:

- 1. Plaintiffs' trademark registrations and Trademark Office file wrappers for their MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' use of their MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- Testimony and/or documents regarding the likelihood of confusion, including confusion among post-sale observers, arising from Defendants' offer for sale and sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- Testimony and/or documents regarding the strength of Plaintiffs' MISS
 ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents regarding the types of Plaintiffs' goods that bear the MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks, and the degree of care likely to be exercised by the post-sale observer.

- 6. Testimony and/or documents regarding the channels through which Plaintiffs sell their goods that bear the MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents regarding Defendants' bad faith and willfulness in offering for sale and selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods into the secondary consumer marketplace.
- 8. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 9. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Matt Graham was the Plant Manager and General Manager for Phoenix Fibers.
- 10. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 11. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 12. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 13. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.

- 14. Testimony and/or documents regarding Phoenix Fibers' sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to Defendant U.S. General.
- 15. Testimony and/or documents regarding U.S. General's sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods to SAC International Traders, Inc., who in turn sold such goods to consumers, and/or to the other Defendants, who in turn sold them to consumers.
- 16. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs spent nearly \$200,000 in order to recover certain of their second-quality goods that were improperly sold into the secondary consumer market by Phoenix Fibers and the other Defendants.
- 17. Samples of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods that Defendants sold into the secondary consumer market.

IV. Defendants' Affirmative Defenses

Phoenix Fibers' Affirmative Defense ("Aff. Def.") 1:1 Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense.

<u>Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 2</u>: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are barred by estoppel. Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense.

¹ Phoenix Fibers' Answer to Plaintiffs' Complaint asserted only five affirmative defenses. Dkt. 22. Although Plaintiffs served their First Amended Complaint on May 18, 2016 (Dkt. 32), Phoenix Fibers did not answer until three days ago, on March 3, 2017. Dkt. 105. This new answer has asserted an additional five affirmative defenses — (1) first sale doctrine; (2) statute of limitations; (3) laches; (4) mutual mistake; and (5) failure to mitigate. *Compare* Dkt. 105 *with* Dkt. 22. As indicated below, Plaintiffs anticipate moving to strike Phoenix Fibers' belated answer once they are able to comply with the meet and confer requirements set forth in the Local Rules.

1	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 3: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are
2	barred by waiver.
3	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 4: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' breach of
4	contract claim fails for lack of consideration.
5	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 5: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' breach of
6	contract claim is barred due to a lack of mutuality of obligation. Plaintiffs understand
7	that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense.
8	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 6: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are
9	barred by the first sale doctrine.
10	<u>Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 7</u> : Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are
11	barred by the relevant statutes of limitations.
12	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 8: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are
13	barred by the doctrine of laches.
14	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 9: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' breach of
15	contract claim fails for mutual mistake of fact.
16	Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 10: Phoenix Fibers alleges that Plaintiffs' claims for
17	damages are barred due to Plaintiffs' failure to mitigate.
18	<u>U.S. General's Aff. Def. 1</u> : ² U.S. General alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint
19	fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.
20	<u>U.S. General's Aff. Def. 2</u> : U.S. General alleges that Plaintiffs have not
21	suffered any harm or monetary damage.
22	<u>U.S. General's Aff. Def. 3</u> : U.S. General alleges that Plaintiffs caused their
23	own damage by their conduct, misconduct, or failure to mitigate.
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25	
26	² U.S. General did not enumerate its affirmative defenses, but instead asserted a variety
27	of defenses over the course of several paragraphs of text. <i>See</i> Dkt. No. 46 at 11–12. Plaintiffs have attempted herein to separate and enumerate U.S. General's defenses.
28	and chumerate 0.5. General 8 detenses.

1	<u>U.S. General's Aff. Def. 4</u> : U.S. General alleges that its conduct did not cause
2	any damage to Plaintiffs.
3	Comak's Aff. Def. 1: Comak alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint is frivolous.
4	Comak's Aff. Def. 2: Comak alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint fails to state a
5	claim upon which relief may be granted.
6	Comak's Aff. Def. 3: Comak alleges that Plaintiffs caused their own damage
7	by their conduct, misconduct, or failure to mitigate.
8	Comak's Aff. Def. 4: Comak alleges that Plaintiffs have not suffered any
9	legally cognizable damages.
10	Comak's Aff. Def. 5: Comak alleges that its conduct did cause any damage to
11	Plaintiffs.
12	Comak's Aff. Def. 6: Comak alleges that any remedies or relief are limited by
13	the limitation of remedies and liability.
14	Comak's Aff. Def. 7: Comak reserves the right to raise additional defenses.
15	Defendant Tiffany Alana Wolff d/b/a Miss V Lane ("Wolff")'s Aff. Def. 1:
16	Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief may b
17	granted.
18	Wolff's Aff. Def. 2: Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the
19	relevant statutes of limitations.
20	Wolff's Aff. Def. 3: Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs are barred from recovering
21	damages by their failure to mitigate.
22	Wolff's Aff. Def. 4: Wolff alleges that Plaintiff's claims are barred by waiver.
23	Wolff's Aff. Def. 5: Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are barred by
24	estoppel.
25	Wolff's Aff. Def. 6: Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the
26	doctrine of unclean hands.
27	Wolff's Aff. Def. 7: Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the
28	doctrine of laches.

1	Wolff's Aff. Def. 8: Wolff alleges that her conduct did cause any damage to
2	Plaintiffs.
3	Wolff's Aff. Def. 9: Wolff alleges that Plaintiffs assumed the risk as it relates
4	to their action.
5	Wolff's Aff. Def. 10: Wolff alleges that her conduct did cause any damage to
6	Plaintiffs.
7	Wolff's Aff. Def. 11: Wolff reserves the right to raise additional defenses.
8	Defendants Lydia Evilsa Terrazas Cho and Myung Kwon Cho (jointly, "Cho")
9	Aff. Def. 1: Cho alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint is frivolous.
10	Cho's Aff. Def. 2: Cho alleges that Plaintiffs' complaint fails to state a claim
11	upon which relief may be granted.
12	<u>Cho's Aff. Def. 3</u> : Cho alleges that Plaintiffs caused their own damage by their
13	conduct, misconduct, or failure to mitigate.
14	<u>Cho's Aff. Def. 4</u> : Cho alleges that Plaintiffs have not suffered any legally
15	cognizable damages.
16	Cho's Aff. Def. 5: Cho alleges that her conduct did not cause any damage to
17	Plaintiffs.
18	<u>Cho's Aff. Def. 6</u> : Cho alleges that any remedies or relief are limited by the
19	limitation of remedies and liability.
20	<u>Cho's Aff. Def. 7</u> : Cho reserves the right to raise additional defenses.
21	V. <u>Elements Required to Establish Defendants' Affirmative Defenses</u>
22	A. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 1 — Failure to State a Claim
23	Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense.
24	Moreover, this is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have
25	adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. See Vogel v. Huntington Oaks
26	Delaware Partners, LLC, 291 F.R.D. 438, 442 (C.D. Cal. 2013); Quintana v. Baca,
27	233 F.R.D. 562, 564 (C.D. Cal. 2005).
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B. <u>Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 2 — Estoppel</u>

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Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense. To the extent it is maintained, however, in order to establish this defense, Phoenix Fibers must prove that:

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1. Plaintiffs knew that Phoenix Fibers was selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods;

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2. Plaintiffs intended that Phoenix Fibers would believe that Plaintiffs did not intend to enforce their rights against Phoenix Fibers, or that Phoenix Fibers had a right to believe that Plaintiffs so intended;

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3. Phoenix Fibers did not know the Plaintiffs actually objected to the sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods; and

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4. Due to its reliance on the Plaintiffs' actions, Phoenix Fibers will be materially prejudiced if Plaintiffs are allowed to proceed with their claims.

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In re Associated Vintage Grp., Inc., 283 B.R. 549, 567 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2002) (listing the basic elements of equitable estoppel); *AirWair Int'l Ltd. v. Schultz*, 84 F. Supp. 3d 943, 958 (N.D. Cal. 2015) (addressing trademark infringement specifically).

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C. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 3 — Waiver

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In order to establish this defense, Phoenix Fibers must prove that:

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1. Plaintiffs intentionally relinquished their known right to bring their claims with knowledge of the claims' existence; and

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2. Plaintiffs had the intent to relinquish the right.

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See United States v. King Features Entm't, Inc., 843 F.2d 394, 399 (9th Cir. 1988).

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D. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 4 — Lack of Consideration

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did not exchange good consideration, defined by California law as "[a]ny benefit conferred, or agreed to be conferred, upon the promisor, by any other person, to

In order to establish this defense, Phoenix Fibers must prove that the parties

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which the promisor is not lawfully entitled, or any prejudice suffered, or agreed to be

1	suffered, by such person, other than such as he is at the time of consent lawfully
2	bound to suffer, as an inducement to the promisor, is a good consideration for a
3	promise." Cal. Civ. Code § 1605 (West); see also Cal. Civ. Code § 1615 (West)
4	(party claiming lack of consideration bears the burden of proof).
5	E. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 5 — Lack of Mutuality of Obligation
6	Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense.
7	Moreover, this defense is duplicative of Phoenix Fibers' defense regarding lack of
8	consideration. See Mattei v. Hopper, 330 P.2d 625, 626 (Cal. 1958) ("Without this
9	mutuality of obligation, the agreement lacks consideration and no enforceable
10	contract has been created."); Fireman's Fund Ins. Co. v. Sizzler USA Real Prop., Inc.,
11	169 Cal. App. 4th 415, 421 (Cal. Ct. App. 2008) ("The consideration for the leases,
12	including all of their covenants, comprised the mutual promises of the parties, as a
13	whole."); see also Restatement (2d) of Contracts § 79 (1981) ("If the requirement of
14	consideration is met, there is no additional requirement of 'mutuality of
15	obligation."").
16	F. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 6 — First Sale Doctrine
17	In order to establish this defense, Phoenix Fibers must prove that:
18	1. Plaintiffs authorized a first sale of its second-quality denim
19	products; and
20	2. Plaintiffs' second-quality denim products were not materially
21	different from Plaintiffs' first-quality denim products.
22	See Enesco Corp. v. Price/Costco Inc., 146 F.3d 1083, 1085-87 (9th Cir. 1998);
23	Microban Prod. Co. v. API Indus., Inc., 2014 WL 1856471, at **9–10 (S.D.N.Y. May
24	8, 2014).
25	G. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 7— Statute of Limitations
26	In order to establish this defense, Phoenix Fibers must prove that Plaintiffs'

claimed harm accrued before February 10, 2012. See Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 343

(providing for a four-year statute of limitations for state claims, where not otherwise

J. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 10 — Failure to Mitigate

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1576–78, 1689(b)(1).

- In order to establish this defense, Phoenix Fibers must prove that:
 - 1. Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided; and
 - 2. Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage.

See Sias v. City Demonstration Agency, 588 F.2d 692, 696 (9th Cir. 1978); Steelduct Co. v. Henger-Seltzer Co., 160 P.2d 804, 812 (Cal. 1945) ("Plaintiff cannot recover for loss which by reasonable means it could have avoided").

K. U.S. General's Aff. Def. 1 — Failure to State a Claim

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442; *Quintana*, 233 F.R.D. at 564.

L. <u>U.S. General's Aff. Def. 2 — No Injury</u>

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See J&J Sports Prods., Inc. v. Juarez*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 1, 2016) (finding that "lack of ... damages" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims); *Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442 (defense "alleging 'no damage or injury' is also not an affirmative defense"); *Hernandez v. Dutch Goose, Inc.*, 2013 WL 5781476, at *7 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 25, 2013) (dismissing "defenses" of "lack of standing" and that "Plaintiff suffered no injury" because they "are not actually affirmative defenses at all").

M. U.S. General's Aff. Def. 3 — Failure to Mitigate

In order to establish this defense, U.S. General must prove that:

- 1. Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided; and
- 2. Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage.
- See Sias, 588 F.2d at 696; Steelduct Co., 160 P.2d at 812 ("Plaintiff cannot recover for loss which by reasonable means it could have avoided").

N. <u>U.S. General's Aff. Def. 4 — Lack of Causation</u>

U.S. General attempts to assert the defense that its actions were not the proximate cause of Plaintiffs' injuries. This is not a valid defense, but merely denies an element of Plaintiffs' claims. *See J&J Sports Prods., Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1

(finding that "lack of causation" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims).

O. Comak's Aff. Def. 1 — Frivolous Complaint

This is not a valid affirmative defense, as it does not attempt to excuse conduct alleged in the First Amended Complaint. *See Hiramanek v. Clark*, 2015 WL 693222, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 18, 2015) (citing *Zivkovic v. S. Cal. Edison Co.*, 302 F.3d 1080, 1088 (9th Cir. 2002)); *Thornton v. Solutionone Cleaning Concepts, Inc.*, 2007 WL 210586, at *4 (E.D. Cal. Jan. 26, 2007); *see also City and Cnty. of San Francisco v. Kihagi*, 2016 WL 7174532, at *2 (Cal. Super. Nov. 14, 2016) (frivolity is not a proper affirmative defense).

P. Comak's Aff. Def. 2 — Failure to State a Claim

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442; *Ouintana*, 233 F.R.D. at 564.

Q. Comak's Aff. Def. 3 — Failure to Mitigate

In order to establish this defense, Comak must prove that:

- 1. Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided; and
- 2. Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage.

See Sias, 588 F.2d at 696; Steelduct Co., 160 P.2d at 812 ("Plaintiff cannot recover for loss which by reasonable means it could have avoided").

R. Comak's Aff. Def. 4 — No Injury

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See J&J Sports Prods., Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (finding that "lack of ... damages" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims); *Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442 (defense "alleging 'no damage or injury' is also not an affirmative defense"); *Hernandez*, 2013 WL 5781476, at *7 (dismissing "defenses" of "lack of standing"

and that "Plaintiff suffered no injury" because they "are not actually affirmative defenses at all").

S. Comak's Aff. Def. 5 — Lack of Causation

Comak attempts to assert the defense that its actions were not the proximate cause of Plaintiffs' injuries. This is not a valid defense, but merely denies an element of Plaintiffs' claims. *See J&J Sports Prods.*, *Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (finding that "lack of causation" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of' the claims).

T. Comak's Aff. Def. 6 — Limitation of Remedies and Liability

This defense is incomprehensible, and therefore not a valid defense. To the extent that Comak intends to refer to a contractual limitation of remedies, that "is not an affirmative defense." *Flagship W., LLC v. Excel Realty Partners LP*, 337 F. App'x 679, 681 (9th Cir. 2009).

U. Comak's Aff. Def. 7 — Reservation of Rights

This is not an affirmative defense, but simply a reservation of "the right to assert unspecified defenses later." *Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442 ("This is not a defense at all, affirmative or otherwise.").

V. Wolff's Aff. Def. 1 — Failure to State a Claim

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442; *Quintana*, 233 F.R.D. at 564.

W. Wolff's Aff. Def. 2 — Statute of Limitations

In order to establish this defense, Wolff must prove that Plaintiffs' claimed harm accrued before February 10, 2012. *See* Cal. Code Civ. Proc. § 343 (providing for a four-year statute of limitations for state claims, where not otherwise provided for); *AirWair Int'l Ltd.*, 84 F. Supp. 3d at 959 (four-year statutes of limitation govern Lanham Act claims, state trademark claims, state unfair competition claims, and common law unfair competition claims); *DC Comics v. Towle*, 989 F. Supp. 2d at

971 ("As trademark infringement is a "continuing" wrong, the statute of limitations 1 2 bars only monetary relief for the period outside the statute of limitations.... 3 However, Plaintiff is free to pursue monetary and equitable relief for the time within the limitations period." (citing Jarrow Formulas, Inc., 304 F.3d at 837), aff'd, 802 4 F.3d 1012 (9th Cir. 2015). 5 Wolff's Aff. Def. 3 — Failure to Mitigate X. 6 7 In order to establish this defense, Wolff must prove that: 8 1. Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided; and 9 2. Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage. 10 See Sias, 588 F.2d at 696; Steelduct Co., 160 P.2d at 812 ("Plaintiff cannot recover for 11 loss which by reasonable means it could have avoided"). 12 Y. Wolff's Aff. Def. 4 — Waiver 13 In order to establish this defense, Wolff must prove that: 14 1. Plaintiffs intentionally relinquished their known right to bring their claims 15 with knowledge of the claims' existence; and Plaintiffs had the intent to relinquish the right. 16 2. 17 See King Features Entm't, Inc., 843 F.2d at 399. Wolff's Aff. Def. 5 — Estoppel 18 Z. 19 In order to establish this defense, Wolff must prove that: 20 1. Plaintiffs knew that Wolff was selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods; 21 2. Plaintiffs intended that Wolff would believe that Plaintiffs did not intend to enforce their rights against Wolff, or that Wolff had a right to believe 22 23 that Plaintiffs so intended; 24 3. Wolff did not know that Plaintiffs actually objected to the sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods; and 25 26 4. Due to her reliance on the Plaintiffs' actions, Wolff will be materially 27 prejudiced if Plaintiffs are allowed to proceed with their claims.

In re Associated Vintage Grp., Inc., 283 B.R. at 567 (listing the basic elements of equitable estoppel); AirWair Int'l Ltd., 84 F. Supp. 3d at 958 (addressing trademark infringement specifically).

AA. Wolff's Aff. Def. 6 — Unclean Hands

In order to establish this defense, Wolff must prove that:

- 1. Plaintiffs engaged in inequitable conduct;
- 2. Plaintiffs' conduct directly relates to the claims they have asserted against Wolff; and
- 3. Plaintiffs' conduct injured Wolff.

See Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Inc. v. Grokster, Ltd., 518 F. Supp. 2d 1197, 1223 (C.D. Cal. 2007).

BB. Wolff's Aff. Def. 7 — Laches

In order to establish this defense, Wolff must prove that:

- 1. Plaintiffs unreasonably delayed in asserting their claims; and
- 2. Plaintiffs' delay prejudiced Wolff.

16 | See Couveau, 218 F.3d at 1083.

CC. Wolff's Aff. Def. 8 — Lack of Causation

Wolff attempts to assert the defense that its actions were not the proximate cause of Plaintiffs' injuries. This is not a valid defense, but merely denies an element of Plaintiffs' claims. *See J&J Sports Prods.*, *Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (finding that "lack of causation" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims).

DD. Wolff's Aff. Def. 9 — Assumption of Risk

This defense is inapplicable to this case, since it is based on a theory of contributory negligence, even though no claims of negligence have been pleaded. *See generally* 2 Cal. Affirmative Def. § 48:24 (2d ed.); *see also Curry*, 367 F.2d at 928 ("The general rule is that contributory negligence is a defense only to actions grounded on negligence…").

EE. Wolff's Aff. Def. 10 — Lack of Causation

This defense (like Wolff's eighth affirmative defense) asserts that Wolff's actions were not the proximate cause for Plaintiffs' injuries. This is not a valid defense, but merely denies an element of Plaintiffs' claims. *See J&J Sports Prods.*, *Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (finding that "lack of causation" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims).

FF. Wolff's Aff. Def. 11 — Reservation of Rights

This is not an affirmative defense, but simply a reservation of "the right to assert unspecified defenses later." *Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442 ("This is not a defense at all, affirmative or otherwise.").

GG. Cho's Aff. Def. 1 — Frivolous Complaint

This is not a valid affirmative defense, as it does not attempt to excuse conduct alleged in the First Amended Complaint. *See Hiramanek*, 2015 WL 693222, at *3 (citing *Zivkovic*, 302 F.3d at 1088); *Thornton*, 2007 WL 210586, at *4; *see also City and Cnty. of San Francisco*, 2016 WL 7174532, at *2 (frivolity is not a proper affirmative defense).

HH. Cho's Aff. Def. 2 — Failure to State a Claim

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442; *Ouintana*, 233 F.R.D. at 564.

II. Cho's Aff. Def. 3 — Failure to Mitigate

In order to establish this defense, Cho must prove that:

- 1. Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided; and
- 2. Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage.

See Sias, 588 F.2d at 696; Steelduct Co., 160 P.2d at 812 ("Plaintiff cannot recover for loss which by reasonable means it could have avoided").

JJ. Cho's Aff. Def. 4 — No Injury

This is not an affirmative defense, but rather a denial that Plaintiffs have adequately pleaded the elements of their claims. *See J&J Sports Prods., Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (finding that "lack of ... damages" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims); *Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442 (defense "alleging 'no damage or injury' is also not an affirmative defense"); *Hernandez*, 2013 WL 5781476, at *7 (dismissing "defenses" of "lack of standing" and that "Plaintiff suffered no injury" because they "are not actually affirmative defenses at all").

KK. Cho's Aff. Def. 5 — Lack of Causation

Cho attempts to assert the defense that its actions were not the proximate cause of Plaintiffs' injuries. This is not a valid defense, but merely denies an element of Plaintiffs' claims. *See J&J Sports Prods.*, *Inc.*, 2016 WL 795891, at *1 (finding that "lack of causation" is "not [an] affirmative defense" but rather "merely den[ies] elements of" the claims).

LL. Cho's Aff. Def. 6 — Limitation of Remedies and Liability

This defense is incomprehensible, and therefore not a valid defense. To the extent that Cho intends to refer to a contractual limitation of remedies, that also "is not an affirmative defense." *Flagship W., LLC*, 337 F. App'x at 681.

MM. Cho's Aff. Def. 7 — Reservation of Rights

This is not an affirmative defense, but simply a reservation of "the right to assert unspecified defenses later." *Vogel*, 291 F.R.D. at 442 ("This is not a defense at all, affirmative or otherwise.").

VI. Key Evidence in Opposition to Defendants' Affirmative Defenses

A. Improper Defenses

No evidence is necessary to oppose the following "defenses," since, as set forth above, they are not proper affirmative defenses: Phoenix Fibers' first affirmative defense; U.S. General's first, second, and fourth affirmative defenses;

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Comak's first, second, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh affirmative defenses; Wolff's first, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh affirmative defenses; and Cho's first, second, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh affirmative defenses.

В. Key Evidence in Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 2 — Estoppel Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning this defense. To the extent it is maintained, however, the following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-byelement basis:

> Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs knew that Phoenix Fibers was selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods

- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of 1. Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' 5. representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming

- that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

 Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs intended that Phoenix

 Fibers would believe that Plaintiffs did not intend to enforce their rights against Phoenix Fibers, or that Phoenix Fibers had a right to believe that Plaintiffs so intended
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
 - Evidence in Opposition to Element 3: Phoenix Fibers did not know the Plaintiffs actually objected to the sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods

- and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
 - Evidence in Opposition to Element 4: Due to its reliance on the Plaintiffs' actions, Phoenix Fibers will be materially prejudiced if Plaintiffs are allowed to proceed with their claims
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.

- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- C. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 3 Waiver</u>
 The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs intentionally relinquished their known right to bring their claims with knowledge of the claims' existence

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.

Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs had the intent to relinquish the right

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- D. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 4 Lack of</u>
 Consideration

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, with respect to its sole element — that the parties did not exchange good consideration:

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- E. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 6 First Sale</u> Doctrine:

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs authorized a first sale of its second-quality denim products

1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.

- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

 Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs' second-quality denim products were not materially different from Plaintiffs' first-quality denim products
- 1. Testimony and/or documents regarding the likelihood of dilution by blurring and/or tarnishment arising from Defendants' offering for sale and sale of Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents regarding the high quality of Plaintiffs' goods that bear the MISS ME or ROCK REVIVAL marks, and the low quality of Plaintiffs' goods sold to consumers by Defendants.

F. Key Evidence in Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 7 — Statute of Limitations:

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, with respect to its sole element — that Plaintiffs' claimed harm accrued before February 10, 2012:

- Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery in 2015 that second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- G. Key Evidence in Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 8 Laches:

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs unreasonably delayed in asserting their claims

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants'

- wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.

Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs' delay prejudiced Wolff

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.

- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- H. <u>Key Evidence In Opposition to Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 9 Mutual Mistake:</u>

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

- Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Both parties made a material mistake of fact or law in entering into the agreement
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no

- charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs that were being sold in the secondary consumer market was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
 - Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Phoenix Fibers would not have agreed to enter into this contract if it had known about the mistake
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Lisa Song represented Plaintiffs in her discussions with Matt Graham of Phoenix Fibers, inquiring as to a means of destroying Plaintiffs' second-quality goods.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- I. Phoenix Fibers' Aff. Def. 10 Failure to Mitigate:

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

- Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

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- Element in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable
- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such
- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert
- Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in
- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing
- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" — i.e., theft — from
- Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged 6. investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being

- sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within four months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- J. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to U.S. General's Aff. Def. 3 Failure to</u>
 Mitigate

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided

- 8. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 9. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 10. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 11. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.

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18.

Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly

contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants'

- wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 19. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 20. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 21. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within four months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- K. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Comak's Aff. Def. 3 Failure to</u>Mitigate

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided

1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.

- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
 - Element in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods

- and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within four months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.

L. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Wolff's Aff. Def. 2 — Statute of</u>
Limitations

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, with respect to its sole element — that Plaintiffs' claimed harm accrued before February 10, 2012:

- 1. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery in 2015 that second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- M. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Wolff's Aff. Def. 3 Failure to Mitigate</u>
 The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely
 on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs' damages could have been avoided

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants'

- wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.

Element in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.

- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within four months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- N. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Wolff's Aff. Def. 4 Waiver</u>

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs intentionally relinquished their known right to bring their claims with knowledge of the claims' existence

1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.

- and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- O. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Wolff's Aff. Def. 5 Estoppel</u>

 The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

- Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs knew that Phoenix Fibers was selling Plaintiffs' second-quality goods
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

- that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.

Evidence in Opposition to Element 4: Due to its reliance on the Plaintiffs' actions, Phoenix Fibers will be materially prejudiced if Plaintiffs are allowed to proceed with their claims

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants'

- wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- P. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Wolff's Aff. Def. 6 Unclean Hands</u>
 The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs engaged in inequitable conduct

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.

- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
 - Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs' conduct directly relates to the claims they have asserted against Wolff
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.

- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
 - Evidence in Opposition to Element 3: Plaintiffs' conduct injured Wolff
- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods

- and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 5. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within four months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
- Q. <u>Key Evidence in Opposition to Wolff's Aff. Def. 7 Laches</u>

The following is a brief description of the key evidence Plaintiffs intend to rely on in opposition to this defense, on an element-by-element basis:

- Evidence in Opposition to Element 1: Plaintiffs unreasonably delayed in asserting their claims
- 8. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 9. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 10. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 11. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 12. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 13. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

- 14. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.
 - Evidence in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs' delay prejudiced Wolff
- 15. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 16. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 17. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that second-quality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 18. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.
- 19. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers' representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 20. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being

- that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in secondary channels was the result of "leakage" *i.e.*, theft from Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.
- 6. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.
- 7. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales activities.

Element in Opposition to Element 2: Plaintiffs failed to take reasonable steps to avoid the damage

- 1. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Ms. Song (on behalf of Plaintiffs) and Mr. Graham (on behalf of Phoenix Fibers) agreed that Plaintiffs would deliver their second-quality goods to Phoenix Fibers at no charge, in exchange for which Phoenix Fibers would shred those goods and convert them into shoddy fiber for use in creating end products such as insulation.
- 2. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Mr. Graham repeatedly represented that Phoenix Fibers would shred Plaintiffs' goods and convert them into shoddy fiber.
- 3. Testimony and/or documents regarding Plaintiffs' discovery that secondquality goods sent to Phoenix Fibers were being offered for sale in secondary consumer trade channels.
- 4. Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs promptly contacted Phoenix Fibers regarding their discovery of Defendants' wrongful sales, in which Plaintiffs also expressed their continuing objection to such sales.

Phoenix Fibers' warehouse.

Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Phoenix Fibers'

representatives intentionally and repeatedly lied to Plaintiffs, claiming

that any second-quality goods of Plaintiffs' that were being sold in

secondary channels was the result of "leakage" — i.e., theft — from

Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs engaged

investigators to determine the source of the second-quality goods being

sold by Defendants, and to attempt to purchase all such available goods

Testimony and/or documents demonstrating that Plaintiffs commenced

this action within months after discovering Defendants' wrongful sales

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VII. Evidentiary Issues

activities.

During summary judgment briefing, Phoenix Fibers raised numerous issues relating to the authenticity of various documents cited by Plaintiffs. This motion has yet to be decided by the Court. While Plaintiffs do not agree that any evidentiary issues exist, Plaintiffs anticipate that any documents offered into evidence at trial will be properly authenticated.

that had been wrongfully sold into secondary channels.

Given that discovery is ongoing, the Parties have agreed and stipulated that any motions *in limine* should be filed closer in time to the commencement of trial, and on a date to be determined at the Final Pretrial Conference, currently scheduled for March 27, 2017. Currently, Plaintiffs anticipate filing a number of motions *in limine*, including without limitation a motion to exclude the testimony to be offered by Defendant Phoenix Fibers' expert Jana M. Hawley. Plaintiffs also understand that Phoenix Fibers anticipates that it will file a number of Motions *in Limine*, as well as a *Daubert* Motion under Federal Rule of Evidence 702 with respect to certain portions of the testimony to be offered by Plaintiffs' expert Juli Saitz.

VIII. Legal Issues

Plaintiffs anticipate that there will be at least one issue of law regarding the correct interpretation of the Lanham Act. Phoenix Fibers has asserted in its pending summary judgment motion that its wrongful sales of Plaintiffs' second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL products are covered by the first sale doctrine. As Plaintiffs explained in their opposition brief, however, the first sale doctrine does not apply where — like here — post-sale confusion is at issue. *See* Dkt. No. 97 at 17 (citing *Au-Tomotive Gold v. Volkswagen of Am.*, 603 F.3d 1133 (9th Cir. 2010)). As the Ninth Circuit explained in *Au-Tomotive Gold*: "Post-purchase confusion creates a free-rider problem.... When a producer purchases a trademarked product, that producer is not purchasing the trademark.... If a producer profits from a trademark because of post-purchase confusion about the product's origin, the producer is, to that degree, a free-rider." *Au-Tomotive Gold*, 603 F.3d at 1138–39.

Plaintiffs anticipate that additional issues may be discovered as the parties exchange proposed jury charges.

L.R. 16-4.3 BIFURCATION OF ISSUES

Plaintiffs do not make a request for bifurcation. Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers intends to file a motion to sever the cross-claims of U.S. General and Wolff against Phoenix Fibers. Plaintiffs also understand that Phoenix Fibers intends to file a motion to sever the trial of Plaintiffs' claims against all other Defendants in this matter, so that those claims are heard in a separate, subsequent trial. Plaintiffs do not consent to either of Phoenix Fibers' anticipated motions, and intend to oppose them.

L.R. 16-4.4 JURY TRIAL

Defendants have demanded a jury trial with respect to legal issues. Less than all issues, however, are triable to a jury, as set forth below.

IX. <u>Issues Triable to the Jury</u>

The following issues are triable to the jury:

- 1. Whether a contract existed between Plaintiffs and Phoenix Fibers, *see*, *e.g.*, *Vita Planning & Landscape Architecture, Inc. v. HKS Architects*, *Inc.*, 192 Cal. Rptr. 3d 838, 844 (Cal. App. 2015), *review denied* (Jan. 13, 2016)
- 2. Whether Phoenix Fibers breached the parties' contract, *see*, *e.g.*, *Palmiero* v. *Spada Distrib. Co.*, 217 F.2d 561, 565 (9th Cir. 1954).
- 3. Whether Plaintiffs' MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks are valid and protectable, *see*, *e.g.*, *Mophie*, *Inc.* v. *Shah*, 2014 WL 10988347, at *19 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 12, 2014).
- 4. Whether there is a likelihood of confusion among consumers who observe such product in the post-sale marketplace, as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation, or approval of the goods, *see*, *e.g.*, *Clicks Billiards*, *Inc. v*. *Sixshooters*, *Inc.*, 251 F.3d 1252, 1265 (9th Cir. 2001).
- 5. Whether Defendants acted willfully, see, e.g., N. Face Apparel Corp. v. Dahan, 2014 WL 12558010, at *18 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 6, 2014).
- 6. Whether Plaintiffs' MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL trademarks are famous in the State of California, *see*, *e.g.*, *Acad. of Motion Picture Arts* & *Scis. v. GoDaddy.com*, *Inc.*, 2015 WL 12684340, at *9 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 10, 2015); *Eszlinger v. United Studios of Self Defense*, *Inc.*, 2012 WL 12336801, at *4 (Cal. Super. Feb. 28, 2012).
- 7. Whether there is a likelihood of dilution, *see*, *e.g.*, *Visa Int'l Serv. Ass'n v. JSL Corp.*, 610 F.3d 1088, 1090 (9th Cir. 2010).
- 8. The amount of damages, see, e.g., Young v. Wideawake Death Row Entm't LLC, 2011 WL 12565250, at *12 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 19, 2011).
- 9. Whether Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the unclean hands doctrine, *see*, *e.g.*, *Fnbn-Rescon I LLC v. Citrus El Dorado LLC*, 2015 WL 11416171, at *8 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 6, 2015).
- 10. Whether Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the laches doctrine, see, e.g., id.

X. <u>Issues Triable to the Court</u>

The following issues are triable to the Court:

- 1. Plaintiffs' claims for restitution and injunctive relief, *see*, *e.g.*, 5 U.S.C. § 1116(a); Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 14247, 17200 *et seq*.
- 2. Plaintiffs' claims for the disgorgement of Defendants' wrongful profits, see, e.g., Fifty-Six Hope Rd. Music, Ltd. v. A.V.E.L.A., Inc., 778 F.3d 1059, 1075 (9th Cir. 2015).
- 3. The parties' claims for attorneys' fees under applicable law, *see*, *e.g.*, 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a).
- 4. Whether Plaintiffs are estopped from maintaining their claims, *see*, *e.g.*, *Platt Pac.*, *Inc. v. Andelson*, 862 P.2d 158, 166 (Cal. 1993) ("Generally, the determination of either waiver or estoppel is a question of fact When, however, the facts are undisputed and only one inference may reasonably be drawn, the issue is one of law").
- 5. Whether Plaintiffs waived their rights to maintain their claims, *see*, *e.g.*, *Platt Pac.*, *Inc.*, 862 P.2d at 166 ("Generally, the determination of either waiver or estoppel is a question of fact When, however, the facts are undisputed and only one inference may reasonably be drawn, the issue is one of law").
- 6. Whether Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the statute of limitations, *see*, *e.g.*, *B. Braun Med.*, *Inc. v. Rogers*, 163 F. App'x 500, 504 (9th Cir. 2006) ("While resolution of the statute of limitations issue is normally a question of fact, where the uncontradicted facts established through discovery are susceptible of only one legitimate inference," a court may determine a statute of limitations issue as a matter of law.").
- 7. Whether Plaintiffs failed to reasonably mitigate their damages, *see*, *e.g.*, *Green v. Smith*, 67 Cal. Rptr. 796, 801 (Cal. Ct. App. 1968) (while failure

to mitigate is usually a question of fact, it may be resolved as a matter of 1 2 law where the underlying facts are undisputed). 3 L.R. 16-4.5 ATTORNEYS' FEES Plaintiffs seek to recover their attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a). 4 5 Section 1117(a) provides that the court may award such fees to the prevailing party in "exceptional cases." Id. "Exceptional cases include cases in which the infringement 6 7 is malicious, fraudulent, deliberate, or willful." Horphag Research Ltd. v. Pellegrini, 337 F.3d 1036, 1042 (9th Cir. 2003). As described above, Plaintiffs intend to offer 8 9 evidence demonstrating Defendants' bad faith and willfulness in offering for sale and 10 selling Plaintiffs' second-quality MISS ME and ROCK REVIVAL products. L.R. 16-4.6 ABANDONMENT OF ISSUES 11 12 Plaintiffs are not abandoning any of their claims. Plaintiffs understand that Phoenix Fibers is abandoning its first, second, and fifth affirmative defenses. Other 13 14 than Phoenix Fibers, Plaintiffs are not aware of whether Defendants have abandoned any of their defenses. 15 16 Dated: March 6, 2017 17 ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER LLP 18 By: /s/ Matthew T. Salzmann 19 John C. Ulin Eric D. Mason 20 Louis S. Ederer 21 Matthew T. Salzmann 22 Attorneys for Plaintiffs 23 24 25 26 27 28